

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A stripping wire for removing a vein, ~~said stripping wire having a plurality of wires connected~~ comprising:

a first wire located at one tip portion,

a second wire located at the other tip portion,

at least one intermediate wire situated between the first and second wires, each of said connected wires comprising

first connecting means provided on one end thereof of each wire and second connecting means provided on the other end of each wire, thereof, wherein

an insert head for guiding said stripping wire into a vein is connected to said first connecting means in at one end of said connected first wire,

a rear end portion is connected to said second connecting means in at the other end of said connected second wire, said at least one intermediate wire being connected to said first and second wires by said first and second connecting means, and

there is formed a vein ligating portion in order that a connected formed by at least one connecting portion caused by between said first connecting means and said second connecting means between of the wires, said insert head or said rear end portion is engaged with the affected part within the vein to introvert and remove the vein.

3. (Currently amended) A stripping wire according to claim 2 ~~Claim 1~~, wherein said first connecting means is formed from a fixed shaped male screw or female screw, and said second connecting means is formed from a male screw or a female screw in engagement with said first mentioned male screw or female screw.

4. (Currently amended) A stripping wire according to ~~Claim~~ claim 2, wherein said insert head is provided with said second connecting means so that the former is connected to the first connecting means of said wire.

5. (Currently amended) A stripping wire according to ~~Claim~~ claim 2, wherein said rear end portion is provided with said first connecting means so that the former is connected to the second connecting means of said wire.

6. (Currently amended) A stripping wire for removing a vein according to claim 2 ~~Claim 1~~, wherein said insert head has an extreme end in an inserting direction formed into a convergent dome shape.

7. (Currently amended) A stripping wire for removing a vein according to claim 2 ~~Claim 1~~, wherein said insert head is in an olive shape for removing a remained vein broken during removing the vein ~~by a Babcock method~~.

8. (Currently amended) A stripping wire according to claim 2 ~~Claim 1~~, wherein said rear end portion is in a cylindrical shape whose diameter is larger than said wire, and ~~there is formed~~ forms an operating grip for pushing in or drawing out ~~in a direction of this side~~ said insert head inserted into a vein.

9. (Currently amended) A stripping wire according to claim 2 ~~Claim 1~~, wherein said wire is a twist wire of which outside diameter is 1.5 to 3.0 mm.

10. (Currently amended) A stripping wire according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein ~~the~~ a surface of said wire is applied with a coating of silicon resin or elastic synthetic resin.

11. (Currently amended) A stripping wire for removing a vein according to ~~Claim~~ claim 10, wherein the surface of said wire is provided with depth marks at fixed intervals.

12. (Currently amended) A stripping wire for removing a vein according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein the surface of said wire in the vicinity of said insert head is formed with fine concavo-convexes.

13. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter for removing a vein, ~~wherein said stripping catheter comprising:~~

a first catheter located at one tip portion,  
a second catheter located at the other tip portion,  
at least one intermediate catheter situated between the first  
and second catheters, ~~has a plurality of catheters connected, each~~  
~~of said catheters connected~~

first connecting means provided on one end of each catheter  
and second connecting means provided on the other end of each  
catheter,

an insert head for guiding said stripping catheter into a  
vein is connected to said first connecting means on at one end of  
said connected first catheter,

a rear end portion is connected to said second connecting  
means on the other end of said connected second catheter, said at

least one intermediate catheter being connected to said first and second catheters by said first and second connecting means, and

~~there is formed a vein ligating portion in order that a~~  
~~connected~~ formed by at least one connecting portion caused by  
between said first connecting means and said second connecting  
means ~~between~~ of the catheters, said insert head or said rear end  
portion ~~is engaged with the affected part within the vein to~~  
introvert and remove the vein.

14. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~  
claim 13, wherein a tube ~~(a tube hole)~~ within said catheters  
connected extends through from said rear end portion to said  
insert head.

15. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~  
claim 14, wherein a pouring port for pouring a flowing medicine is  
provided in said rear end portion, and the medicine poured from  
said pouring port flows into a hypodermic tunnel after removal of  
a vein from a hole provided in said insert head or said connected  
portion.

16. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~  
claim 14, wherein a pouring port for pouring a flowing medicine is  
provided in said rear end portion, said catheter is formed with a  
plurality of holes from said tube extending through the interior  
to the circumferential surface of the catheter, and the medicine  
poured from said pouring port flows into a hypodermic tunnel after  
removal of a vein from said plurality of holes.

17. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~  
claim 15, wherein said pouring port is formed so that a syringe  
for pouring a medicine is connected.

18. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~ claim 14, wherein said stripping catheter further comprises a guide wire for guiding said catheter into a vein, said guide wire being ~~is~~ introduced into the tube of said catheter connected.

19. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~ claim 14, ~~wherein~~ further comprising supersonic wave irradiating means for irradiating supersonic waves to the affected part in a vein ~~from a hole~~ provided in said insert head or said connected portion, said supersonic wave irradiating means being ~~is~~ introduced into the tube within said catheter connected.

20. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~ claim 14, ~~wherein~~ further comprising laser beam irradiating means for irradiating laser beams to the affected part in a vein ~~from a hole~~ provided in said insert head or said connected portion, said laser beam irradiating means being ~~is~~ introduced into the tube within said catheter connected.

21. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~ claim 16, wherein a pouring port for pouring a flowing medicine is provided in the insert head so that, ~~and after said insert head inserted into a vein is drawn outside the human body at a fixed place within the vein,~~ the medicine can be ~~is~~ poured from the pouring port of said insert head.

22. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~ claim 21, wherein in the connected portion between said a plurality of catheters, a closing portion for closing the tube extending through said catheter connected is formed.

23. (Currently amended) A stripping catheter according to ~~Claim~~ claim 13, wherein said catheter is formed of a material whose main component comprises ~~any of~~ nylon, PTFE or polyimide-polyurethane.

24. (New) A stripping wire according to claim 2, wherein said each connecting means is formed of a pawl or an interlocking mechanism.